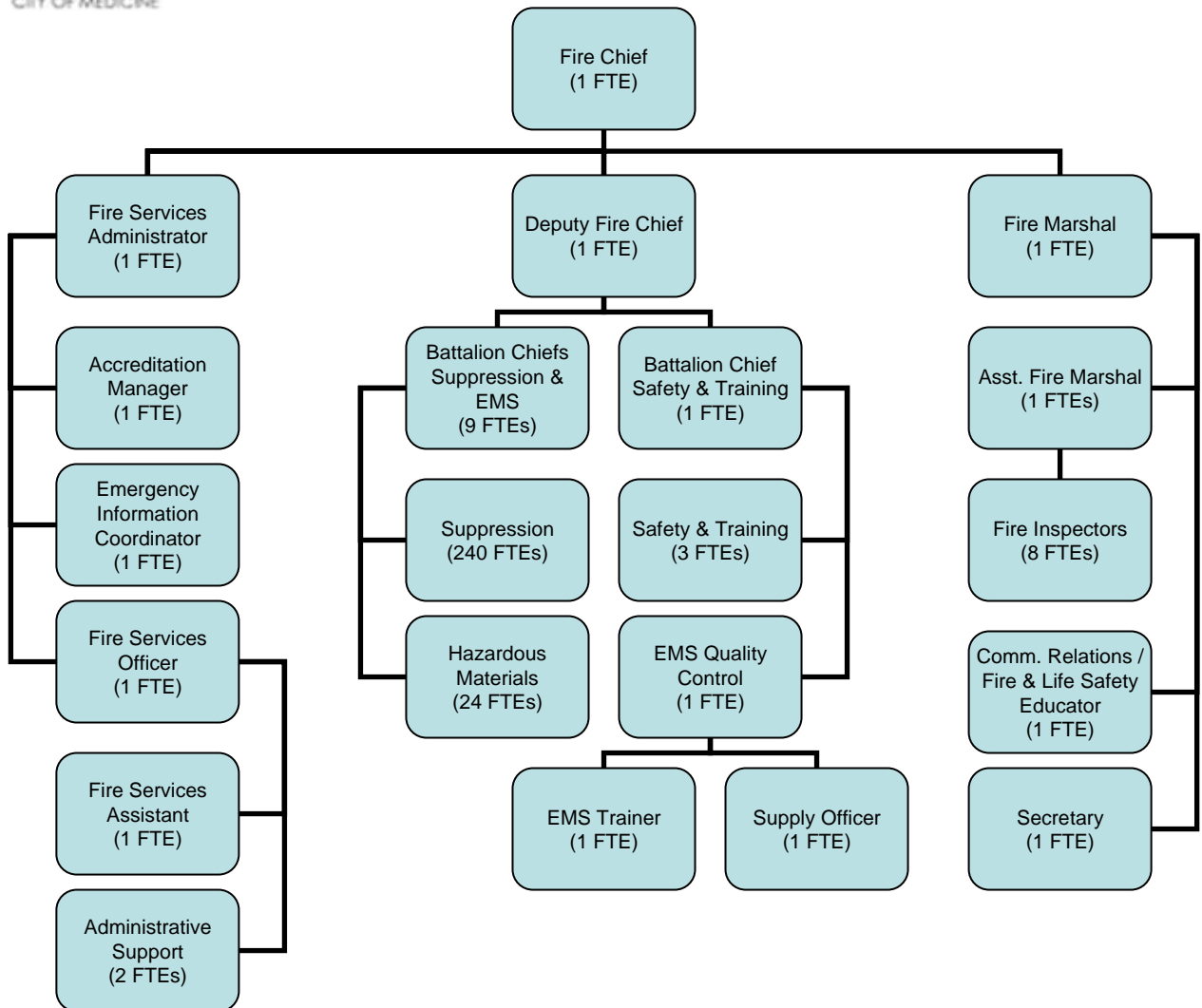




Fire Department

(301 FTEs)



FIRE DEPARTMENT

Mission:

To prevent harm, stay safe and seek opportunities to provide quality service.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

Administration**\$830,360****9 FTEs**

The Fire Administration Division coordinates and supervises the Fire Department. The division is responsible for fiscal planning, records management, implementation and training for technology advancements, personnel management and resource maintenance and management. This division also is responsible for recommending and implementing management policies and procedures for daily operations of the department under the direction of the Fire Chief.

Safety and Training**\$541,749****7 FTEs**

The Safety and Training Division provides for the training, occupational safety, and wellness of fire department personnel through entry level and advanced in-service training programs, accident investigation, and wellness evaluations. This division functions to provide a safe work environment, maintain current certifications of all operations personnel, and monitor physical fitness levels of operations personnel.

Suppression and Emergency Response**\$17,454,090****273 FTEs**

Fire Suppression provides comprehensive fire related emergency response to the citizens of Durham, thereby minimizing the loss of life and destruction of property through the rapid deployment of trained personnel and appropriate equipment. Service is currently provided by trained fire/rescue personnel strategically placed throughout the City and through service contracts with volunteer fire departments (VFDs). Personnel respond to over 17,000 emergency calls a year with an average response time of 4.3 minutes.

The Emergency Medical Services program provides Advanced Life Support with emergency medical first responders, at the Emergency Medical Technician-Defibrillation (EMT-D) and Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate (EMT-I) level, in response to a variety of medical emergencies within the City. All fire department apparatus are equipped with emergency medical supplies and semi-automatic defibrillators used to stabilize and/or resuscitate patients until the arrival of paramedic personnel on the scene. Early emergency medical intervention by the Fire Department helps to protect injured or sick citizens of Durham from further harm.

The Hazardous Materials Team provides emergency response to and the identification of both known and unknown chemical and biological substances released into the environment. These personnel are specially trained to mitigate chemical emergencies. This program supports the goals of safety (by stopping chemical releases at the earliest possible stage) and protecting citizens and the City's natural assets. The Hazardous Materials Team is staffed with technicians trained to identify, isolate and mitigate most common hazardous material spills or leaks. They have the technology to interface with state and national resources to assist in their efforts. This program is provided to minimize the harmful effects of toxic releases on both people and the environment of Durham. The program operates under the requirements as set forth in state and federal OSHA standards, particularly 29CFR1910.120.

The Tactical Rescue Team provides for the rescue of persons trapped and/or injured beyond the scope of normal fire department operations. These specialized rescues may involve high/low angle, trench, swift water, vehicle extrication, structural collapse, and confined space rescue emergencies.

Prevention**\$873,885****12 FTEs**

The Fire Prevention Division provides comprehensive enforcement of mandated fire and life safety codes and regulations including the inspection of properties for fire code violations. Responsibilities include regulating the design and implementation of building features and fire protection systems. The purpose of this division is to

prevent and/or reduce the loss of life, injury and property damage due to fire in commercial, factory, institutional, business, educational, mercantile, and assembly occupancies.

The Fire Investigation Team provides fire cause and origin determination and the investigation of all fires of a suspicious nature. Clearance of arson crimes remains a high priority for the Fire Prevention Division and is in alignment with the City's efforts to investigate and solve cases involving suspicious fires. The program supports the City Council goal of making all citizens safe.

The Community Fire Education program provides educational programs related to the causes and the prevention of fire and burn injuries in the community. Emphasis is placed on targeting areas in the community that are experiencing the greatest hazards from fire emergencies and those that have a history of emergency medical calls for service. The program encourages a strong link between the Fire Department and the community by instituting outreach programs such as the "Risk Watch" and the "Learn Not to Burn" programs, smoke detector campaigns, fire extinguisher training, fire safety training, blood pressure checks, and programs for seniors involving their health and fire safety.

RESOURCE ALLOCATION

	Actual FY 2005-06	Adopted FY 2006-07	Estimated FY 2006-07	Adopted FY 2007-08	Change
Appropriations					
Personal Services	\$ 16,129,533	\$ 17,295,441	\$ 16,598,556	\$ 17,606,048	1.8%
Operating	1,873,212	2,066,934	2,085,639	2,070,716	0.2%
Capital	602,660	79,500	79,500	-	-100.0%
Transfer to Other Funds	-	8,000	8,000	23,320	191.5%
Total Appropriations	\$ 18,605,405	\$ 19,449,875	\$ 18,771,695	\$ 19,700,084	1.3%
Full Time Equivalents	301	301	301	301	-
Part Time	-	-	-	-	-
Revenues					
Discretionary	\$ 17,507,885	\$ 18,360,528	\$ 17,707,348	\$ 18,635,737	1.5%
Program	1,097,520	1,089,347	1,064,347	1,064,347	-2.3%
Total Revenues	\$ 18,605,405	\$ 19,449,875	\$ 18,771,695	\$ 19,700,084	1.3%

BUDGET ISSUES FOR FY 2007-08

- Improve infrastructure by installing a generator at Fire Administration.
- Continue the department's focus on preparation for major catastrophic events.
- Construct Fire Station No. 15 in the northeastern portion of the City.
- Begin design for Fire Station No. 9 in the eastern portion of the City.
- Maintain the current level of service delivery.
- Provide service through annexation based fire service contracts.
- Deal with increasing vehicle fuel and natural gas costs.

UNFUNDED OR UNDERFUNDED ITEMS

• 1 Assistant Fire Chief	\$31,919
• Fire Station 15 personnel	\$780,840
• 1 Fire Inspector	\$54,480
• 19 Firefighters	\$1,030,275
• Bonus pay for Emergency Medical Technician – Intermediate Training	\$50,637
• Reclassify 1 Battalion Chief to Assistant Fire Chief	\$17,368
• 1 Assistant Storekeeper	\$28,100

• Emergency power generator for Fire Administration building	\$45,000
• Fire Station No. 2 Replacement Tower	\$50,000
• Fire Station No. 2 front driveway repair	\$10,000

COMPLETED INITIATIVES FOR FY 2006-07

- Completed construction of Fire Station No. 16 on Farrington Road and opened station in October 2006.
- Conducted multi-agency Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) training sessions with Cary, Chapel Hill and Raleigh.
- Completed recruitment, hiring, training and graduation of Fire Academy 19.
- Completed public safety technology upgrades.
- Implemented the customer satisfaction survey program.
- Installed defibrillators at City Hall and provided training for City Hall staff.
- Graduated 19 youth from the Junior Fire Marshal Program.
- Conducted night drills for all Operations Division personnel.
- Completed Rapid Intervention Team (RIT) and Rescue Training for the department.
- Completed Radiation Awareness Training for 165 personnel.
- Upgraded Engine No. 3 to provide EMT-Intermediate level service rather than EMT-Basic level service.
- Completed department certification under the new CPR standards.
- Completed Basic Trauma Life Support (BTLS) training for the department.
- Conducted 8 courtesy home inspections at no cost to citizens.
- Distributed 170 smoke detectors to City of Durham residents.
- Submitted 164 burned out homes to the Neighborhood Improvement Services to start the demolition process.

DEPARTMENT INITIATIVES FOR FY 2007-08

- Continue the department accreditation process through the Commission on Fire Accreditation International, Inc.
- Participate in regional USAR and Hazardous Materials training with the Raleigh, Cary and Chapel Hill Fire Departments.
- Construct Fire Station No. 15.
- Begin the design and development process for Fire Station No. 9.
- Conduct Fire Academy in April.
- Implement a Citizen's Fire Academy to educate citizens on the importance of knowing fire safety as well as an extensive view into what the Fire Department accomplishes in the community.
- Continue to conduct courtesy home inspections at no cost to citizens.
- Continue to distribute smoke detectors to City of Durham residents.

GOALS, OBJECTIVES & STRATEGIES FOR FY 2007-08

GOAL: *To provide the citizens of Durham with well trained emergency medical services personnel.*

OBJECTIVE: To maintain skill levels of 95% or better score on EMS quarterly skills testing. The North Carolina Department of Emergency Medical Services requires a 70% score.

STRATEGY: Provide increased levels of in-service training programs through satellite and centralized training.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
EMS skills level average on written test	92%	95%	98%	95%

GOAL: To confine structure fires to the room of origin 45% of the time. The International City County Management Association (ICMA) reports that the national average is 40%.

OBJECTIVE: To confine structure fires to the room of origin 45% of the time. The International City County Management Association (ICMA) reports that the national average is 40%.

STRATEGY: Employ rapid response and aggressive interior fire attacks when feasible, to conduct routine critiques to improve strategy and tactics, and to measure performance.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
% Fires confined to room of origin	60%	45%	60%	45%
% Fires confined to floor of origin	25%	20%	11%	20%
% Fires contained to building of origin	13%	34%	25%	34%
% Fires beyond building of origin	2%	1%	4%	1%

OBJECTIVE: To maintain an average turnout time of 1 minute or less (from notification to departure) to all emergency calls.

STRATEGY: Monitor the time from receipt of an emergency call to the company officer calling en route by monthly review of fire reports. Establish minimum time standards for personnel to get dressed with protective equipment prior to getting on apparatus. Report findings to operations division Battalion Chiefs for review and investigation of irregularities.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
% Turnout time less than 1 minute	68%	N/A	99%	90%
Average turnout time	60 seconds	60 seconds	39 seconds	60 seconds

OBJECTIVE: To maintain an average response time of 4 minutes or less for all high priority fire related emergency calls from the point of units calling en route to arrival of first unit on scene.

STRATEGY: Monitor the time from the fire apparatus calling en route to the arrival of the first unit on the scene of an emergency by monthly review of fire reports. Report findings to operations division Battalion Chiefs for review and investigation of irregularities. Provide emergency vehicle operations course to enhance safe and efficient responses.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
% Response time of 4 minutes or less	38%	N/A	40%	90%
Average response time	4 minutes	4 minutes	5 minutes	4 minutes

GOAL: To combat arson fires through effective investigation, cooperation with other agencies, and the incorporation of citizen participation leading to the arrest and conviction of arson related criminals. These activities work to ensure that every citizen in Durham has access to safe housing.

OBJECTIVE: To maintain a minimum 30% clearance rate for arson fires.

STRATEGY: Utilize the latest in investigative techniques and technology to combat arson related crimes.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
% Arson fires cleared	44%	50%	63%	50%

GOAL: To ensure that the citizens of the City of Durham are safe from fire.

OBJECTIVE: To reduce the number of fire related deaths in businesses, homes, and other occupancies located within the City.

STRATEGY: Continue aggressive fire inspections on regulated facilities and courtesy fire inspections in homes. Act proactively by providing fire and burn prevention education programs to all Durham citizens and school age children.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
# Fire related deaths / 100,000 citizens	0	0	1	0

GOAL: To ensure that the citizens of the City of Durham enjoy an efficient and accountable City government.

OBJECTIVE: To measure the effectiveness and efficiency of the delivery of emergency services to the citizens of the City of Durham.

STRATEGY: Provide a means for the citizens to measure their overall satisfaction with the delivery of emergency and non-emergency services.

MEASURES:	Actual FY 2006	Adopted FY 2007	Estimated FY 2007	Adopted FY 2008
% Customer service measures rated favorably	N/A	90%	100%	95%